

Easterling, Deborah

From: Easterling, Deborah
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 9:57 AM
To:
Subject: Letter of Protest - 2017-228-S - Application of Palmetto Utilities, Incorporated for Adjustment of Rates and Charges for Customers in the Palmetto Utilities and Palmetto of Richland County Service Areas

Dear Mr. Szwec,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments filed on behalf of the Windermere Community Association and the Longcreek Plantation Property Owners Association. Your Letter of Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

- Docket No. 2017-228-S - Application of Palmetto Utilities, Incorporated for Adjustment of Rates and Charges for Customers in the Palmetto Utilities and Palmetto of Richland County Service Areas

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can also follow Docket No. 2017-228-S at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/116386>.

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Deborah Easterling
Executive Assistant
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
803-896-5133
Sign up for Meeting Agenda Alerts: Text [PSCAGENDAS](https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email) to [39492](https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email)

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Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, SC 29210

RE: LETTER OF PROTEST Concerning Application of Palmetto Utilities, Incorporated for Adjustment of Rates and Charges for Customers in the Palmetto Utilities and Palmetto of Richland County Service Areas Docket No. 2017-228 -S

Dear Commissioners:

I am the President of 2 Homeowner's Associations in Blythewood, SC- Windermere Community Association, and Longcreek Plantation POA. Combined, I represent a total of approximately 1,800 owners of Residential houses. We therefore represent 15% of your 12,000 new customers from NE Richland, and more than 5% of all of your 32,000 customers.

We look at your math differently: While your report says you invested \$80 million for the merger of Palmetto of Richland's 12,000 customers, the same report clarifies that \$15 million was for the upgrade at Spears Creek WWTP. Based on your current average customer spending \$38.51 a month, or \$462.12 per year x 12,000 new customers in this area equals \$5.54 million per year in revenue. That means that the \$15 million investment has an ROI of 2.7 years. And that is without a rate increase! Not a bad investment!

We are adamantly opposed to a rate increase, and want to point out to you that a fixed rate plan will deter water conservation, and encourage water usage since your method of sewer billing is based on water consumption. Not to mention- many people and communities have invested in wells to irrigate their lawns and to save on both their water and sewer bills. Your fixed rate plan reduces the desire for more to do so, and hurts those who have made the investment.

Per the 1,500 owners in Longcreek Plantation and 300 owners in Windermere in Blythewood SC –

we are opposed to this rate hike.

Rob Szwec- President of Windermere Community Association

And President of Longcreek Plation Property Owners Association

Robert Szwec
January 8th, 2018

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